

Claims

1. A judgment device which judges whether an object is invalid using a blacklist, comprising:

5 a holding unit operable to hold the blacklist showing whether the object is invalid, and a whitelist showing whether the judgment device is valid;

 a judgment unit operable to judge whether the whitelist needs to be updated;

10 an acquisition unit operable to acquire together a latest blacklist and a latest whitelist, if the whitelist is judged as needing to be updated; and

 an update unit operable to write together the latest blacklist and the latest whitelist respectively over the
15 blacklist and the whitelist in the holding unit.

2. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

 the object is a storage medium used for storing information,

20 the holding unit holds a medium blacklist showing whether the storage medium is invalid, as the blacklist,

 the acquisition unit acquires a latest medium blacklist as the latest blacklist, and

 the update unit writes the latest medium blacklist over
25 the medium blacklist in the holding unit.

3. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

 the object is a digital work,

the holding unit holds a work blacklist showing whether the digital work is invalid, as the blacklist,

the acquisition unit acquires a latest work blacklist as the latest blacklist, and

5 the update unit writes the latest work blacklist over the work blacklist in the holding unit.

4. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

the object is an information acquisition device,

10 the holding unit holds a device blacklist showing whether the information acquisition device is invalid, as the blacklist,

the acquisition unit acquires a latest device blacklist as the latest blacklist, and

15 the update unit writes the latest device blacklist over the device blacklist in the holding unit.

5. The judgment device of Claim 4, wherein

the information acquisition device is a medium access
20 device for any of writing information to and reading information from a storage medium used for storing information.

6. The judgment device of Claim 5, which is integrated with
25 the information acquisition device as a single device.

7. The judgment device of Claim 4, wherein

the information acquisition device is a digital

broadcast reception device for receiving information which is broadcast by digital broadcasting.

8. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

5 the judgment unit makes the judgment using information about a generation of the whitelist.

9. The judgment device of Claim 8, wherein

the judgment unit includes:

10 a first acquisition subunit operable to acquire first generation information showing a required generation of the whitelist, from the object;

15 a second acquisition subunit operable to acquire second generation information showing an actual generation of the whitelist held in the holding unit; and

20 a judgment subunit operable to compare the generation shown by the first generation information and the generation shown by the second generation information, and judge the whitelist as needing to be updated if the generation shown by the first generation information is newer than the generation shown by the second generation information.

10. The judgment device of Claim 9, wherein

25 the first acquisition subunit acquires a first version number showing the required generation of the whitelist, as the first generation information,

 the second acquisition subunit acquires a second version number showing the actual generation of the whitelist held

in the holding unit, as the second generation information,
and

the judgment subunit compares the first version number
and the second version number.

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11. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

the blacklist includes an identifier of the object if
the object is invalid, and

the judgment device further comprises

10 an invalidity judgment unit operable to judge whether
the object is invalid, by checking whether the identifier
of the object is included in the blacklist.

12. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

15 the whitelist and the blacklist are integrated as a
single list.

13. The judgment device of Claim 1, wherein

the whitelist includes an identifier of the judgment
20 device or information showing a set of identifiers of valid
objects including the judgment device, if the judgment device
is valid, and

the blacklist includes an identifier of the object or
information showing a set of identifiers of invalid objects
25 including the object, if the object is invalid.

14. An authentication system including a judgment device and
an object, the judgment device judging whether the object

is invalid using a blacklist, the judgment device comprising:

a holding unit operable to hold the blacklist showing whether the object is invalid, and a whitelist showing whether the judgment device is valid;

5 a judgment unit operable to judge whether the whitelist needs to be updated;

an acquisition unit operable to acquire together a latest blacklist and a latest whitelist, if the whitelist is judged as needing to be updated; and

10 an update unit operable to write together the latest blacklist and the latest whitelist respectively over the blacklist and the whitelist in the holding unit.

15 15. A computer-readable whitelist showing whether an object is valid, comprising

an identifier of the object or information showing a set of identifiers of valid objects including the object, if the object is valid.

20 16. A computer-readable blacklist showing whether an object is invalid, comprising

an identifier of the object or information showing a set of identifiers of invalid objects including the object, if the object is invalid.

25 17. A judgment method used in a judgment device which judges whether an object is invalid using a blacklist, the judgment device including a holding unit operable to hold the blacklist

showing whether the object is invalid, and a whitelist showing whether the judgment device is valid, the judgment method comprising the steps of:

judging whether the whitelist needs to be updated;

5 acquiring together a latest blacklist and a latest whitelist, if the whitelist is judged as needing to be updated; and

writing together the latest blacklist and the latest whitelist respectively over the blacklist and the whitelist
10 in the holding unit.

18. A computer program used in a computer which judges whether an object is invalid using a blacklist, the computer including a holding unit operable to hold the blacklist showing whether
15 the object is invalid, and a whitelist showing whether the judgment device is valid, the computer program comprising:

program code operable to cause the computer to judge whether the whitelist needs to be updated;

program code operable to cause the computer to acquire
20 together a latest blacklist and a latest whitelist, if the whitelist is judged as needing to be updated; and

program code operable to cause the computer to write together the latest blacklist and the latest whitelist respectively over the blacklist and the whitelist in the
25 holding unit.

19. The computer program of Claim 18 being stored on a computer-readable storage medium.

20. The computer program of Claim 18 being transmitted via a carrier wave.